August 3, 2022

Greetings Students and Families,

I am Dr. DaMaris A. White. It is with humility and exuberance that I join the Gateway MST Middle School family, as the building leader. Gateway was built on the foundation of love and is known for its dedication to greatness. It is my goal to continue the tradition with precision, resilience, intentionality, diversity and excellence. It is elating to have the opportunity to lead an amazing aggregation of middle school age students while partnering with the parents and school community.

I am entering my twenty-second year in education. My entire educational career has been in the St. Louis Public Schools District. I have served in many capacities as well as gained much knowledge in every role fulfilled. Children are the most beautiful gift on earth and I am committed to advocating for equity, resources, impeccable instruction and support for each student that walk through the doors of Gateway Middle.

Furthermore, I am grateful to serve alongside the devoted administrative leadership team, faculty and staff. I look forward to the collaboration of home-to-school and the work we will do together. This year, I encourage you to bask in the theme, “The Best Way to Start the Day is at Gateway.”

We will strive to maximize our students’ learning experience by creating an environment that promotes high quality academic expectations while supporting their social and emotional well-being. As we welcome you and embark upon the 2022-2023 school year, we are committed to providing safety while delivering an atmosphere of pride and belonging.

Please find below pertinent updates that will answer many of your questions for the coming weeks:

School begins: **Monday, August 22, 2022**  
Transportation: **Bus Routes letters will be mailed**

School start time: **8:05AM**  
Dismissal time: **3:02PM**

**iPad Distribution:** Location: Gateway MST Middle School 1200 N. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis MO

(Please arrive at door #2 (closest to Jefferson – not the front door – on the Southwest corner of the building).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Date</th>
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| 6th   | Tuesday, August 16th | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM  
|       |                    | 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM |
| 7th   | Wednesday, August 17th | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM  
|       |                    | 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM |
| 8th   | Thursday, August 18th | 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM  
|       |                    | 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM |

**11:00-11:30 time slot will not be available as it is allocated for lunch for the iPad distributors**
PLEASE NOTE:

Per St. Louis Public Schools policy, in order to receive an iPad, any previous bills will need to either be paid or you will need to have started a payment plan. If you owe money, you will have received a bill via email already from the district. You can call 314-345-5757 to start a payment plan. If you would like to pay your bill completely, we can accept cash or money orders (made out to St. Louis Public Schools) when you come to pick up your new device, or, you can go to [https://www.billerpayments.com/app/simplepayui/?bsn=louisp#simplepay/payment](https://www.billerpayments.com/app/simplepayui/?bsn=louisp#simplepay/payment) to pay online. You will need your students’ ID number. If you need your students’ ID number or aren’t sure if you owe anything, you can respond to this email and Mr. Herron will assist you with the information.

If you make (or have made) a payment after July 18th, please have access to the email receipt when you come. There is a delay (approximately a week) for the completed transaction. Payments should be made my Monday, August 8th to make sure your child is cleared before iPad distribution begins.

If you are in need of additional information, please don’t hesitate to contact the school office at 314-241-2295. In closing, I encourage all of my Junior Jaguars to strive to make each day count!

Yours in Education,

Dr. White

“The Best Way to Start the Day is at Gateway”

With

**Core Values**

**Precision – Resilience – Intentionality – Diversity – Excellence**

We will maximize our potential to educate each student with Precision

Each student will develop the sense of Resilience when experiencing challenges

We are intentional about inspiring students to succeed

We will respect and celebrate the Diversity of all students

We will strive to create a community of Excellence